

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~burner for a~~ thermal post-combustion device comprising a burner, the burner having a combustion nozzle ~~which comprises with~~ a substantially hollow-cylindrical base member at least virtually closed at one end by a cover and to which fuel gas is supplied axially at a particular pressure, which gas flows out radially via a plurality of main discharge openings,

~~characterised in that~~wherein

the main discharge openings (8) are arranged at such a radial distance from the axis of the base member (1) and exhibit such a cross-section that, at the particular pressure of the supplied fuel gas, individual flames form at the main discharge openings (8) which substantially do not overlap.

2. (Currently Amended) A ~~burner~~ thermal post-combustion device according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the main discharge openings (8) are located at the ends of discharge tubes (6) which project outwards from the base member (1) in the form of a star.

3. (Currently Amended) A ~~burner~~ thermal post-combustion device according to claim 1 or claim 2, ~~characterised in that~~wherein at least one small-area passage opening (3, 4) is provided in at least one of the cover (2) ~~and/or and~~ in the region of the base member (1) close to the cover, wherein the total area of all the small-area passage openings (3, 4) in at least one of the cover ~~and/or and~~ the base member (1) is less than the total area of all the main discharge openings (8).

4. (Currently Amended) A ~~burner~~ thermal post-combustion device according to claim 2 or claim 3, ~~characterised in that~~wherein a small-area passage opening (9) for a fuel gas forming a

pilot flame is provided in at least one discharge tube ~~(6)~~.

5. (Currently Amended) A ~~burner~~ thermal post-combustion device according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that it~~ wherein the burner comprises a swirl means (13), which imparts eddy flow to the pollutant-containing exhaust air flowing around the combustion nozzle.

6. (Currently Amended) A ~~burner~~ thermal post-combustion device according to claim 5, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the swirl means (13) comprises at least one set of blades (18, 21) extending radially outwards in the manner of spokes.

7. (Currently Amended) A ~~burner~~ thermal post-combustion device according to claim 6, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the swirl means (13) comprises a first set of blades (18), which extend between a combustion nozzle housing (12) coaxially surrounding the combustion nozzle (1) and an intermediate ring (19), and a second set of blades (21), which extend between the intermediate ring (19) and an outer ring (20).

8. (Currently Amended) A ~~burner~~ thermal post-combustion device according to claim 6 ~~or claim 7~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein at least some of the blades (18, 19) have an inherently twisted shape.